

Congress of the United States
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HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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Dear Friend:

President Ronald Reagan's surgery for cancer of the colon has increased interest in cancer. The American people are more anxious than ever to learn how this dreaded disease can be prevented or cured.

The enclosed newsletter will help you learn how you and your family can fight cancer. The notion that the diagnosis of cancer is a sure death sentence is wrong. The cure rate for some forms of cancer is as high as 99%!

We have some knowledge about how to *prevent* cancer. We are certain that in virtually every case the *earlier* cancer is discovered the more likely the person is to recover.

Lung cancer is one of the deadliest forms of cancer. Sadly, the recovery rate is very low—below 15%. Yet the great majority of cases of lung cancer (as well as many other forms of cancer) can be prevented by *not smoking*. Nothing would prevent more cases of cancer than an *end to cigarette smoking*.

I know President Reagan shares my hope that through his illness people will become better informed. The front line in the fight against cancer is not in the intensive care unit of a hospital, but in each individual's daily life. Changes in *diet* and *smoking* habits, and *alertness to early symptoms* of cancer are currently our best hope in the war against cancer.

With best wishes for good health,



CONGRESSMAN HENRY A. WAXMAN
Chairman, House Subcommittee
on Health and the Environment